

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A DNA oligomer capable of hybridizing in full-length under high stringency conditions to the full length of a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 16-912 of SEQ ID NO:1 and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the high stringency hybridization conditions are overnight hybridization at about 68 °C in 6X SSC and a wash in 6X SSC at room temperature, followed with a wash at 68 °C first in 6X SSC and then in 0.6X SSC, wherein the DNA oligomer has a length of 1822 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 1, the DNA oligomer has a length of 897 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to nucleotides 16-912 of SEQ ID NO:1 and the DNA oligomer has a length of 816 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

19.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A DNA oligomer consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 16-912 of SEQ ID NO:1 and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or a nucleotide sequence complementary thereto.

22. (Currently Amended) A DNA oligomer capable of hybridizing in full-length under high stringency conditions to the full length of a nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 16-912 of SEQ ID NO:1 and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the high stringency hybridization conditions are overnight hybridization at about 68 °C in 6X SSC and a wash in 6X SSC at room temperature, followed with a wash at 68 °C first in 6X SSC and then in 0.6X SSC, wherein the DNA oligomer has a length of 1822 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 1, the DNA oligomer has a length of 897 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to

nucleotides 16-912 of SEQ ID NO:1 and the DNA oligomer has a length of 816 nucleotides when the DNA oligomer hybridizes to nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

23. (Previously Presented) The DNA oligomer of Claim 18, wherein the nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1 encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 and amino acid residues 28-299 of SEQ ID NO:3.

24. (Previously Presented) The DNA oligomer of Claim 21, wherein the nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1 encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 and amino acid residues 28-299 of SEQ ID NO:3.

25. (Previously Presented) The DNA oligomer of Claim 22, wherein the nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, and nucleotides 97-912 of SEQ ID NO: 1 encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 and amino acid residues 28-299 of SEQ ID NO:3.

26.-31. (Cancelled)